Six 2019 grads selected for library senior essay prizes

Yale University Library has selected six 2019 graduates to receive this year’s library prizes for outstanding senior essays. The prizes, awarded in three categories, will be presented to the students at their residential college graduation ceremonies on May 20. The winning essays will be published online in Eli Scholar.

The Harvey M. Applebaum ’59 Award is for an essay using the library’s collections of government documents and information. This year, a first-prize of $500 and a second-prize of $250 will be awarded.


The Manuscripts and Archives Diane Kaplan Memorial Prize is for an essay based substantially on research in any Yale Manuscripts and Archives collection. The $500 prize will be presented to two students this year.

- Ethan Swift, Pierson College, for Young Americans for Freedom and the Anti-War Movement: Pro-War Encounters with the New Left at the Height of the Vietnam War.

The Library Map Prize recognizes the best use of maps in a senior essay or equivalent project. This year, a first prize of $500 and an honorable mention of $250 will be awarded.

- First Prize: Claire Rossi de Leon, Pierson College, for Ranging and Behavior of Black and Gold Howler Monkeys in Formosa, Argentina
- Honorable Mention: Amanda Taheri, Branford College, for Settler Colonialism as a Structure: Interpreting Historic Moroccan Actions in Western Sahara